

PRE

TO PREDICATE. *v. n.* To affirm or speak.
It were a presumption to think, that any thing in any created nature can bear any perfect resemblance of the incomprehensible perfection of the divine nature, very being itself not *predicating* univocally touching him and any created being. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
PREDICATE. *n. f.* [*prædicatum*, Lat.] That which is affirmed of the subject; as *man is rational*.
The predicate is that which is affirmed or denied of the subject. *Watts's Logick.*
PREDICATION. *n. f.* [*prædicatio*, Lat. from *predicate*.] Affirmation concerning any thing.
Let us reason from them as well as we can; they are only about identical predication and influence. *Locke.*
TO PREDICT. *v. a.* [*prædictus*, Lat. *predire*, Fr.] To foretell; to foreknow.
He is always inveighing against such unequal distributions; nor does he ever cease to *predict* publick ruins, till his private are repaired. *Government of the Tongue.*
PREDICTION. *n. f.* [*prædictio*, Lat. *prediction*, Fr. from *predict*.] Prophecy; declaration of something future.
These *predictions*
Are to the world in general, as to Cæsar. *Shaksp.*
The *predictions* of cold and long winters, hot and dry summers, are good to be known. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
How soon hath thy *prediction*, seer blest!
Measur'd this transient world the race of time,
Till time stand fix'd. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. xii.*
In Christ they all meet with an invincible evidence, as if they were not *predictions*, but after-relations; and the penmen of them not prophets but evangelists. *South's Sermons.*
He, who prophesied the best,
Approves the judgment to the rest;
He'd rather choose, that I should die,
Than his *prediction* prove a lie. *Swift's Miscel.*
PREDICTOR. *n. f.* [from *predict*.] Foreteller.
Whether he has not been the cause of this poor man's death, as well as the *predictor*, may be disputed. *Swift.*
PREDIGESTION. *n. f.* [*præ and digestio*.] Digestion too soon performed.
Predigestion, or hasty digestion, fills the body full of crudities and seeds of diseases.
TO PREDISPOSE. *v. a.* [*præ and dispo*.] To adapt previously to any certain purpose.
Vegetable productions require heat of the sun, to *predispose* and excite the earth and the seeds.
Unless nature be *predisposed* to friendship by its own propensity, no arts of obligation shall be able to abate the secret hatreds of some persons towards others. *South's Sermons.*
PREDISPOSITION. *n. f.* [*præ and dispositio*.] Previous adaptation to any certain purpose.
It was conceived to proceed from a malignity in the constitution of the air, gathered by the *predispositions* of seasons. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
Tunes and airs have in themselves some affinity with the affections; so as it is no marvel if they alter the spirits, considering that tunes have a *predisposition* to the motion of the spirits. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
External accidents are often the occasional cause of the king's evil; but they suppose a *predisposition* of the body. *Wiseman's Surgery.*
PREDOMINANCE. *n. f.* [*præ and domina*, Lat.] Prevalence; **PREDOMINANCY.** *n. f.* [*superiority*; ascendancy; superior influence.]
We make guilty of our disasters, the sun, the moon and the stars, as if we were knaves, thieves and treacherous by spherical predominance. *Shaksp. King Lear.*
An inflammation consists only of a sanguineous affluxion, or else is denominable from other humours, according to the predominancy of melancholy, phlegm or choler. *Brown.*
In human bodies, there is an incessant warfare amongst the humours for predominancy. *Hewell's Vocal Forest.*
The true cause of the Pharisees disbelief of Christ's doctrine, was the predominance of their covetousness and ambition over their will. *South's Sermons.*
The several rays therefore in that white light do retain their colorific qualities, by which those of any sort, whenever they become more copious than the rest, do, by their excess and predominance, cause their proper colour to appear. *Newton.*
PREDOMINANT. *adj.* [*predominant*, Fr. *præ and dominor*.] Prevalent; supreme in influence; ascendent.
Miserable were the condition of that church, the weighty affairs whereof should be ordered by those deliberations, wherein such an humour as this were predominant. *Hooker.*
Foul subornation is predominant,
And equity exil'd your highness' land. *Shaksp.*
It is a planet, that will strike
Where 'tis predominant; and 'tis powerful. *Shaksp.*
Those helps were overweighed by divers things that made against him, and were predominant in the king's mind. *Bacon.*

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Whether the sun, predominant in heav'n,
Rise on the earth; or earth rise on the sun. *Milton.*
I could shew you several pieces, where the beauties of this kind are to predominant, that you could never be able to read or understand them. *Swift.*
TO PREDOMINATE. *v. n.* [*predominare*, Fr. *præ and dominor*, Lat.] To prevail; to be ascendent; to be supreme in influence.
So much did love t' her executed lord
Predominate in this fair lady's heart. *Daniel.*
The gods formed womens souls out of these principles which compose several kinds of animals; and their good or bad disposition arises, according as such and such principles predominate in their constitutions. *Addison.*
The rays, reflected least obliquely, may predominate over the rest, so much as to cause a heap of such particles to appear very intensely of their colour. *Newton's Opticks.*
Where judgment is at a loss to determine the choice of a lady who has several lovers, fancy may the more allowably predominate. *Clarissa.*
TO PRELECT. *v. a.* [*præ and elect*.] To chuse by previous decree.
PREEMINENCE. *n. f.* [*preeminence*, Fr. *præ and eminere*.] It is sometimes written, to avoid the junction of *ee*, *preeminence*.
1. Superiority of excellence.
I plead for the preeminence of epick poetry. *Dryden.*
Let profit have the preeminence of honour in the end of poetry; pleasure, though but the second in degree, is the first in favour. *Dryden.*
The preeminence of christianity to any other religious scheme which preceded it, appears from this, that the most eminent among the Pagan philosophers disclaimed many of those superstitious follies which are condemned by revealed religion. *Addison.*
2. Precedence; priority of place.
His lance brought him captives to the triumph of Artelia's beauty, such, as though Artelia be amongst the fairest, yet in that company were to have the preeminence. *Sidney.*
He toucheth it as a special preeminence of Junias and Andronicus, that in christianity they were his ancients. *Hooker.*
I do invest you jointly with my power,
Preeminence, and all the large effects
That troop with majesty. *Shaksp. King Lear.*
The English desired no preeminence, but offered equality both in liberty and privilege, and in capacity of offices and employments. *Hayward.*
Am I distinguish'd from you but by toils,
Superior toils, and heavier weight of cares!
Painful preeminence. *Addison's Cato.*
3. Superiority of power or influence.
That which standeth on record, hath preeminence above that which passeth from hand to hand, and hath no pens but the tongues, no book but the ears of men. *Hooker.*
Beyond the equator, the Southern point of the needle is sovereign, and the North submits his preeminence. *Brown.*
PRE-EMINENT. *adj.* [*preeminent*, Fr. *præ and eminent*.] Excellent above others.
Tell how came I here? by some great maker
In goodness and in pow'r preeminent. *Milton.*
We claim a proper interest above others, in the preeminent rights of the household of faith. *Sprat's Sermon.*
PRE-EMPTION. *n. f.* [*præemptio*, Lat.] The right of purchasing before another.
Certain persons, in the reigns of king Edward VI. and queen Mary, fought to make use of this *preemption*, but crossed in the prosecution, or defeated in their expectation, gave it over. *Carw.*
TO PREENGAGE. *v. a.* [*præ and engage*.] To engage by precedent ties or contracts.
The world has the unhappy advantage of preengaging our passions, at a time when we have not reflection enough to look beyond the instrument to the hand whose direction it obeys. *Rogers's Sermons.*
To Cipeus by his friends his suit he mov'd,
But he was preengag'd by former ties. *Dryden.*
Not only made an instrument;
But preengaged without my own consent. *Dryden.*
PREENGAGEMENT. *n. f.* [from *preengage*.] Precedent obligation.
My preengagements to other themes were not unknown to those for whom I was to write. *Boyle.*
The opinions, suited to their respective tempers, will make way to their assent, in spite of accidental preengagements. *Glanville's Sentiments.*
Men are apt to think, that those obediences they pay to God shall, like a preengagement, disannull all after-contracts made by guilt. *Decay of Piety.*
As far as opportunity and former preengagements will give leave. *Collier of Friendship.*

PREENING.

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TO PREEN. *v. a.* [*preinen*, Dutch, to dress or prank up.] To trim the feathers of birds, to enable them to glide more easily through the air: for this use nature has furnished them with two peculiar glands, which secrete an unctuous matter into a perforated oil bag, out of which the bird, on occasion, draws it with its bill. *Bailey.*
TO PREESTABLISH. *v. a.* [*præ and establish*.] To settle beforehand.
PREESTABLISHMENT. *n. f.* [from *preestablish*.] Settlement beforehand.
TO PREEXIST. *v. a.* [*præ and existo*, Lat.] To exist beforehand.
If thy preexisting soul
Was form'd at first with myriads more,
It did through all the mighty poets roll. *Dryden.*
PREEXISTENCE. *n. f.* [*preexistence*, Fr. from *preexist*.] Existence beforehand; existence of the soul before its union with the body.
Wisdom declares her antiquity and preexistence to all the works of this earth. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
As Simonides has exposed the vicious part of women, from the doctrine of preexistence; some of the ancient philosophers have satyrized the vicious part of the human species, from a notion of the soul's postexistence. *Addison.*
PREEXISTENT. *adj.* [*preexistent*, Fr. *præ and existent*.] Existing beforehand; preceding in existence.
Artificial things could not be from eternity, because they suppose man, by whose art they were made, preexistent to them; the workman must be before the work. *Burnet.*
Blind to former, as to future fate,
What mortal knows his preexistent state? *Pope.*
If this preexistent eternity is not compatible with a successive duration, then some being, though infinitely above our finite comprehensions, must have had an identical, invariable continuance from all eternity, which being is no other than God. *Bentley's Sermons.*
PREFACE. *n. f.* [*præface*, Fr. *præfatio*, Lat.] Something spoken introductory to the main design; introduction; something preomial.
This superficial tale
Is but a preface to her worthy praise. *Shaksp.*
Sir Thomas More betrayed his depth of judgment in state affairs in his Utopia, than which, in the opinion of Budæus in a preface before it, our age hath not seen a thing more deep. *Peacham of Poetry.*
Heav'n's high behest no preface needs;
Sufficient that thy pray is heard, and death
Defeated of his seizure. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. xi.*
TO PREFACE. *v. n.* [*præfari*, Lat.] To say something introductory.
Before I enter upon the particular parts of her character, it is necessary to preface, that she is the only child of a decrepid father. *Spektator, N^o 449.*
TO PREFACE. *v. a.*
1. To introduce by something preomial.
Thou art rash,
And must be preface'd into government. *Southey.*
2. To face; to cover. A ludicrous sense.
I love to wear cloaths that are flush,
Not preface old rags with plush. *Cleaveland.*
PREFACER. *n. f.* [from *preface*.] The writer of a preface.
If there be not a tolerable line in all these six, the prefacer gave me no occasion to write better. *Dryden.*
PREFATORY. *adj.* [from *preface*.] Introductory.
If this proposition, whosever will be saved, be restrained only to those to whom it was intended, the christians, then the anathema reaches not the heathens, who had never heard of Christ: after all, I am far from blaming even that *prefatory* addition to the creed. *Dryden.*
PREFECT. *n. f.* [*præfectus*, Lat.] Governor; commander.
He is much
The better soldier, having been a tribune,
Prefect, lieutenant, prætor in the war. *Benj. Johnson.*
It was the custom in the Roman empire, for the prefects and vice-roys of distant provinces to transmit a relation of every thing remarkable in their administration. *Addison.*
PREFECTURE. *n. f.* [*præfectura*, Fr. *præfectura*, Lat.] Command; office of government.
TO PREFER. *v. a.* [*preferere*, Fr. *præfero*, Lat.]
1. To regard more than another.
With brotherly love, in honour prefer one another. *Ro.*
2. With above before the thing postponed.
If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy. *Psalms cxxxvii. 6.*
3. With before.
He that cometh after me, is preferred before me; for he was before me. *Jo. i. 15.*
It may worthily seem unto you a most shameful thing, to have preferred an infamous peace before a most just war. *Kneller.*
O spirit, that dost prefer
Before all temples th' upright heart. *Milton.*

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4. With to.
Would he rather leave this frantic scene,
And trees and beasts prefer to courts and men. *Prior.*
5. To advance; to exalt; to raise.
By the recommendation of the earl of Dunbar, he was preferred to the bishoprick of Coventry and Litchfield. *Clarend.*
He spake, and to her hand preferred the bowl. *Pope.*
6. To offer solemnly; to propose publicly; to exhibit.
They flatly disavouch
To yield him more obedience or support;
And as t' a perjurd duke of Lancaster,
Their cartel of defiance they prefer. *Daniel.*
I, when my soul began to faint,
My vows and prayers to thee preferred;
The lord my passionate complaint,
Even from his holy temple, heard. *Sandys.*
Prefer a bill against all kings and parliaments since the conquest; and if that won't do, challenge the crown and the two houses. *Collier on Duelling.*
Take care,
Left thou prefer so rash a pray'r;
Nor vainly hope the queen of love
Will e'er thy rav'rite's charms improve. *Prior.*
Every person within the church or commonwealth may prefer an accusation, that the delinquent may suffer condign punishment. *Ayliffe's Purgatory.*
PREFERABLE. *adj.* [*preferable*, Fr. from *prefer*.] Eligible before something else. With to commonly before the thing refused.
The stronger ties we have to an unalterable pursuit of happiness, which is greatest good, the more are we free from any necessary compliance with our desire, set upon any particular, and then appearing preferable good, till we have duly examined it. *Locke.*
Though it be incumbent on parents to provide for their children, yet this debt to their children does not quite cancel the score due to their parents; but only is made by nature preferable to it. *Locke.*
Almost every man in our nation is a politician, and hath a scheme of his own, which he thinks preferable to that of any other. *Addison's Freeholder.*
Even in such a state as this, the pleasures of virtue would be superior to those of vice, and justly preferable. *Atterb.*
PREFERABLENESS. *adj.* [from *preferable*.] The state of being preferable.
PREFERABLY. *adv.* [from *preferable*.] In preference; in such a manner as to prefer one thing to another.
How came he to chuse a comick *preferably* to the tragick poets; or how comes he to chuse Plautus *preferably* to Terence. *Dennis.*
PREFERENCE. *n. f.* [*preferentia*, Fr. from *prefer*.]
1. The act of preferring; elevation of one thing above another; election of one rather than another.
It gives as much due to good works, as is consistent with the grace of the gospel; it gives as much preference to divine grace, as is consistent with the precepts of the gospel. *Sprat.*
Leave the critics on either side, to contend about the preference due to this or that sort of poetry. *Dryden.*
We find in ourselves a power to begin or forbear several actions of our minds and motions of our bodies, barely by a thought or preference of the mind, ordering the doing, or not doing such a particular action. *Locke.*
The several musical instruments in the hands of the Apollo's, Muses and Fauns, might give light to the dispute for preference between the ancient and modern music. *Addison.*
A secret pleasure touch'd Athena's soul
To see the preference due to sacred age
Regarded. *Pope's Odyssey.*
2. With to before the thing postponed.
This passes with his soft admirers, and gives him the preference to Virgil. *Dryden.*
It directs one, in preference to, or with neglect of the other, and thereby either the continuation or change becomes voluntary. *Locke.*
3. With above.
I shall give an account of some of those appropriate and discriminating notices wherein the human body differs, and hath preference above the most perfect brutal nature. *Hale.*
4. With before.
Herein is evident the visible discrimination between the human nature, and its preference before it. *Hale.*
5. With over.
The knowledge of things alone gives a value to our reasonings, and preference to one man's knowledge over another. *Locke.*
PREFERMENT. *n. f.* [from *prefer*.]
1. Advancement to a higher station.
I'll move the king
To any shape of thy preferment, such
As thou'lt desire. *Shaksp. Cymbeline.*
If you hear of that blind traitor,
Preferment falls on him that cuts him off.
20 G *Shaksp. Princes.*